

America's Highly Skilled Work Force Meets In Kansas City

The Minnesota SkillsUSA delegation returned to Kansas City June 21-25, 2010 for its 46th annual National Leadership and Skills Conference, a showcase of career and technical education students. Quality career and technical education was the centerpiece of the conference. More than 14,000 students, teachers, education leaders, and representatives from more than 1,100 national corporations, trade associations, businesses and labor unions attended the event. Special highlighted events were the SkillsUSA Championships June 23 and 24 with 96 hands-on skill and leadership competitions.

The winners of the annual SkillsUSA Championships were announced Friday evening, June 25, 2010 at the Awards Ceremony of the National Leadership and Skills Conference. The Conference was held June 21 - June 25, 2010, at the Municipal Auditorium, the Kemper Arena, H. Roe Bartle Hall, the downtown Marriott and the downtown Hyatt in Kansas City, Missouri. Over 5,600 outstanding career and technical education students joined in the excitement of hands-on competition in ninety-six different trade, technical, and leadership fields.

Working against the clock and each other, the participants proved their expertise in job skills for occupations such as electronics, technical drafting, precision machining, medical assisting and culinary arts. There were also competitions in leadership skills, such as extemporaneous speaking and conducting meetings by parliamentary procedures.

SkillsUSA is the national organization for students in trade, industrial, technical and health occupations education. It sponsors the SkillsUSA Championships annually to recognize the achievements of career and technical education students and to encourage them to strive for excellence and pride in their chosen occupations. SkillsUSA organizes this event, and it is considered the single greatest day of industry volunteerism in America every year at an estimated cost of more than \$35 million. Each SkillsUSA Championships contestant is a state-level gold medalist.

The contests are planned by technical committees made up of representatives of labor and management and are designed to test the skills needed for a successful entry-level performance in given occupational fields. Safety practices and procedures - an area of great concern to labor and management alike - are judged and graded and constitute a portion of a contestant's score.

The Minnesota Delegation of over 200 students, advisors, voting delegates and national education team members were on hand for the weeklong event. State Executive Director, Ms. Jennifer Polz received Membership Award for increase in the High School division for the 2009-2010 school year, and was re-elected to a two year term to serve as Region IV State Director Association Officer.

Congratulations to the entire Minnesota Delegation for such a strong showing in medal count, bringing home the largest medal count in history of 38 medallion winners in both college and high divisions in twenty-one different leadership/skilled areas. 70 students also earned finalist in the Minnesota Delegation.

Sixty-six (66) Students also received their Skill Point Certificate at NLSC. This is a significant achievement that documents their knowledge and hands-on abilities. The Skills Point Certificate is a tool to recognize outstanding talent beyond those who earn the gold, silver or bronze medals at the SkillsUSA Championships. The same industry leaders who defined the competencies for the Championships determined a "cut score," Which is a score that indicates excellence for students entering technical fields. Each Certificate is designed with industry logos that represent many companies in the technical area and also list the competency areas tested.

The Skill Point Certificate is just one part of the Work Force Ready System, a comprehensive program developed by SkillsUSA to help students document their knowledge and hands-on abilities.

(www.workforcereadysystem.org)

Students from the following colleges competed at the National conference: Alexandria Technical College, Carver-Scott Educational Cooperative, Century College, Dakota County Technical College, Dunwoody College of Technology, Hennepin Technical College- Brooklyn Park and Eden Prairie Campuses, Hibbing Community College, Lake Superior College, Minneapolis Community & Technical College, MN State Community & Technical College-Wadena Campus, Ridgewater College- Willmar, Riverland Community College Albert Lea and Austin Campuses, St. Cloud Technical College, Saint Paul College, and South Central College- North Mankato Campus.

Students from the following high schools/technical centers competed at the national conference: Alexandria Technical College, Austin High School, Carver-Scott Educational Cooperative, Cambridge-Isanti High School, Champlin Park High School, Dakota County Secondary Technical Center, Dakota Ridge High School, Dunwoody Academy, John F. Kennedy High School, Minneapolis Community & Technical College, Mounds View High School, St. Francis High School, Secondary Technical Educational Program and Wayzata High School.

Dr. Marlys Bucher was in attendance representing the SkillsUSA National Board of Directors during the conference. Dr. Bucher is employed by the MN Department of Education, Center for Postsecondary Success. Education Specialist II - Coordinator Secondary Perkins/CTE Assessment and Evaluation Specialist. Also in attendance during the conference was Mr. Daniel Smith, from the MN Department of Education, Education Supervisor, Center for Postsecondary Success.

Begun in 1967, the SkillsUSA Championships has grown from 54 competitors in three contests to more than 5,600 competitors in 96 hands-on skill and leadership contests this year. SkillsUSA adds contests to the SkillsUSA Championships to meet the demands of new and expanding occupations. One hundred thirty different occupational areas are represented by SkillsUSA affiliated instructional programs.

SkillsUSA Formerly known as VICA (Vocational Industrial Clubs of America), SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled work force. We help each student excel.

For additional information, please contact: Jennifer Polz, Executive Director, SkillsUSA Minnesota

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2010 NLSC Minnesota Winners ***National Leadership & Skills Conference***

GOLD MEDALLION WINNERS (First Place)

- * CNC TURNING- College- Jordan Haugen, Alexandria Technical College
- * CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION- College- Amber Engebretson, Riverland Community College- Austin
- * CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION - College- John Jorgensen, Riverland Community College- Austin
- * CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION- TJ Lynch, Riverland Community College- Austin
- * MECHATRONICS – High School- Joel Hedlof, Alexandria Technical College
- * MECHATRONICS –High School- Patrick Schueller, Alexandria Technical College
- MECHATRONICS – College- Tim Evans, Alexandria Technical College
- MECHATRONICS –College- Patrick Triemert, Alexandria Technical College
- * QUIZ BOWL- College- Benjamin Anderson, Dunwoody College of Technology
- * QUIZ BOWL - College- Matt Barlau, Dunwoody College of Technology
- * QUIZ BOWL - College- Kyle Bodie, Dunwoody College of Technology
- * QUIZ BOWL - College- Phillip DeLeeuw, Dunwoody College of Technology
- * QUIZ BOWL - College- Jim Stenstrom, Dunwoody College of Technology
- * RELATED TECHNICAL MATH- College- Michael Moreen, Dunwoody College of Technology

SILVER MEDALLION WINNERS (Second Place)

- * CNC MILLING TECHNOLOGY- Leo Steffl, Alexandria Technical College
- * HVACR- Rafael Morales, Hennepin Technical College- Eden Prairie
- * MARINE SERVICE TECHNOLOGY- College- Kyle Stach, Alexandria Technical College
- * PIN DESIGN- Logan Wilberts, South Central College- North Mankato
- * POWER EQUIPMENT TECHNOLOGY- College- Eric Nelson, Alexandria Technical College
- * PROMOTIONAL BULLETIN BOARD- Julie Lagios, Lake Superior
- * WELDING ART SCULPTURE- Ryan Dagen, Ridgewater College- Willmar

BRONZE MEDALLION WINNERS (Third Place)

- * AUTOMATED MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY- College- Derek Deling, South Central College- North Mankato
- * AUTOMATED MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY- College- Jim Walser, South Central College- North Mankato
- * AUTOMATED MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY- College- Eric Zins, South Central College- North Mankato
 - * CABINETMAKING- College- Paul Manthei, Hennepin Technical College- Brooklyn Park
 - * CHAPTER DISPLAY- College- Michal Albers, Dakota County Technical College
 - * CHAPTER DISPLAY- College- Rob Clark, Dakota County Technical College
 - * CHAPTER DISPLAY- College- Robert Vovk, Dakota County Technical College
- * CUSTOMER SERVICE- High School- Sophie Konewko, John F. Kennedy High School
- * DIESEL EQUIPMENT TECHNOLOGY- College- Christopher McCllough, Hennepin Technical College- Brooklyn Park
 - * ENTREPRENEURSHIP- College- David Flicek, South Central College- North Mankato
 - * ENTREPRENEURSHIP- College- Silas Mauk, South Central College- North Mankato
 - * ENTREPRENEURSHIP- College- Jon Smith, South Central College- North Mankato
- * ENTREPRENEURSHIP- College- Trevor Weaver, South Central College- North Mankato
 - * HVACR- High School- Philip Patton, Minneapolis Community & Technical College
 - * RESIDENTIAL WIRING- College- Jacob Wagner, St. Cloud Technical College
 - * SHEET METAL- College- Daniel Hillmer, Saint Paul College
 - * TELECOMMUNICATIONS CABLING- College- Tyler Foss, MSCTC- Wadena

2010 SKILLSUSA CHAMPIONSHIP TOP 10 FINISHERS FROM MINNESOTA

**** Indicates: Certificate of Receiving 80% or more of total possible score)***

1st Place

- * CNC TURNING- College- Jordan Haugen, Alexandria Technical College
- * CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION- College- Amber Engebretson, Riverland Community College- Austin
- * CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION - College- John Jorgensen, Riverland Community College- Austin
- * CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION- TJ Lynch, Riverland Community College- Austin
- * MECHATRONICS – High School- Joel Hedlof, Alexandria Technical College
- * MECHATRONICS –High School- Patrick Schueller, Alexandria Technical College
- MECHATRONICS – College- Tim Evans, Alexandria Technical College
- MECHATRONICS –College- Patrick Triemert, Alexandria Technical College
- * QUIZ BOWL- College- Benjamin Anderson, Dunwoody College of Technology
- * QUIZ BOWL - College- Matt Barlau, Dunwoody College of Technology
- * QUIZ BOWL - College- Kyle Bodie, Dunwoody College of Technology
- * QUIZ BOWL - College- Phillip DeLeeuw, Dunwoody College of Technology
- * QUIZ BOWL - College- Jim Stenstrom, Dunwoody College of Technology
- * RELATED TECHNICAL MATH- College- Michael Moreen, Dunwoody College of Technology

2nd Place

- * CNC MILLING TECHNOLOGY- Leo Steffl, Alexandria Technical College
- * HVACR- Rafael Morales, Hennepin Technical College- Eden Prairie
- * MARINE SERVICE TECHNOLOGY- College- Kyle Stach, Alexandria Technical College
- * PIN DESIGN- Logan Wilberts, South Central College- North Mankato
- * POWER EQUIPMENT TECHNOLOGY- College- Eric Nelson, Alexandria Technical College
- * PROMOTIONAL BULLETIN BOARD- Julie Lagios, Lake Superior
- * WELDING ART SCULPTURE- Ryan Dagen, Ridgewater College- Willmar

3rd Place

- * AUTOMATED MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY- College- Derek Deling, South Central College- North Mankato
- * AUTOMATED MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY- College- Jim Walser, South Central College- North Mankato
- * AUTOMATED MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY- College- Eric Zins, South Central College- North Mankato
- * CABINETMAKING- College- Paul Manthei, Hennepin Technical College- Brooklyn Park
- * CHAPTER DISPLAY- College- Michal Albers, Dakota County Technical College
- * CHAPTER DISPLAY- College- Rob Clark, Dakota County Technical College
- * CHAPTER DISPLAY- College- Robert Vovk, Dakota County Technical College
- * CUSTOMER SERVICE- High School- Sophie Konewko, John F. Kennedy High School
- * DIESEL EQUIPMENT TECHNOLOGY- College- Christopher McClough, Hennepin Technical College- Brooklyn Park
- * ENTREPRENEURSHIP- College- David Flicek, South Central College- North Mankato
- * ENTREPRENEURSHIP- College- Silas Mauk, South Central College- North Mankato
- * ENTREPRENEURSHIP- College- Jon Smith, South Central College- North Mankato
- * ENTREPRENEURSHIP- College- Trevor Weaver, South Central College- North Mankato
- * HVACR- High School- Philip Patton, Minneapolis Community & Technical College
- * RESIDENTIAL WIRING- College- Jacob Wagner, St. Cloud Technical College
- * SHEET METAL- College- Daniel Hillmer, Saint Paul College
- * TELECOMMUNICATIONS CABLING- College- Tyler Foss, MSCTC- Wadena

4th Place

- * AUTOMOTIVE REFINISHING TECHNOLOGY- College- Trevor Lang, Ridgewater College- Willmar
- COMMUNITY SERVICE- College- Peter Alms, Lake Superior College
- COMMUNITY SERVICE- College- Scott Welty, Lake Superior College
- COMMUNITY SERVICE- College- Nathan Zobel, Lake Superior College
- * HEALTH OCCUPATIONS PROFESSIONAL PORTFOLIO- College- Katie Kirsch, Riverland Community College- Austin
- * WEB DESIGN- College- Nathan Geier, Hennepin Technical College- Brooklyn Park
- * WEB DESIGN- College- Michelle Heil, Hennepin Technical College- Brooklyn Park

5th Place

- DIESEL EQUIPMENT TECHNOLOGY- High School- Dominic Gergen, Alexandria Technical College
- * JOB SKILL DEMONSTRATION A- College- Jess Ranby, Lake Superior College
- PHOTOGRAPHY- College- Wright Braudt, Carver-Scott Educational Cooperative
- TECHNICAL DRAFTING- College- Jordan Bloch, Alexandria Technical College

6th Place

- * CRIMINAL JUSTICE- High School- Emily Taitt, Secondary Technical Education Program
- * CUSTOMER SERVICE- College- Selena Smith Flemming, Riverland Community College- Austin
- MAJOR APPLIANCE TECHNOLOGY- College- Joe Quick, Hibbing Community College
- * MASONRY- College- Parker Johnson, Dakota County Technical College

7th Place

- * ADVERTISING DESIGN- College- Kristin Hodgman, Hennepin Technical College- Brooklyn Park
- * EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING- College- Sergio Hernandez, Riverland Community College- Albert Lea
- INDUSTRIAL MOTOR CONTROL- College- Dan Rogers, Minneapolis Community & Technical College

8th Place

- * MASONRY- High School- Spencer Coffman, Alexandria Technical College
- * PRECISION MACHINING TECHNOLOGY- College- Macintosh McGrew, Alexandria Technical College
- T-SHIRT DESIGN- High School- Derek Enright, Champlin Park High School

9th Place

- * CARPENTRY- High School- Alexander Smith, Cambridge High School
- GRAPHIC COMMUNICATIONS- College- Waylon Thompson, Hennepin Technical College- Brooklyn Park
- WELDING- High School- Tim Saxton, Cambridge High School

10th Place

- ELECTRONICS TECHNOLOGY- College- Dan Hilgert, Ridgewater College- Willmar
- * JOB INTERVIEW- High School- Julian Ellison, Carver-Scott Educational Cooperative
- MOTORCYCLE SERVICE TECHNOLOGY- College- Brady Cameron, Alexandria Technical College
- * OPENING AND CLOSING CEREMONIES- High School- John F. Kennedy High School
Team of: McKenzie Auers, Edith Lopez, Mahlet Makonnen, Gina Shuck, Shelby Spurlin, Anna Zhao and Emily Zhao
- * OPENING AND CLOSING CEREMONIES- College- Century College
Team of: Jenna Anderson, Caitlin Butler, Cassandra Franz, Jolynn Lieftring, Kari Monson, Christine Schlosser and Mikealine Wallgren
- WELDING ART SCULPTURE- High School- Mitch Paulus, Red Wing High School

FINALIST- with a score of 80% of the possible points:

- * AUDIO-RADIO PRODUCTION- High School- Noah Beckman, Secondary Technical Education Program- 14th Place
- * AUDIO-RADIO PRODUCTION- High School- Jonah Johnson, Secondary Technical Education Program- 14th Place
- * COSMETOLOGY- High School- Ashley O'Grady, Carver-Scott Educational Cooperative- 28th Place
- * COSMETOLOGY- College- Kayla Winn, MSCTC-Wadena- 16th Place
- * FIREFIGHTING- High School – Christopher Metzger, Wayzata High School – 11th Place
- * NURSE ASSISTING- High School- April Alden, Dakota County Secondary Technical Center- 11th Place

Minnesota students receive Skill Point Certificates at the SkillsUSA National Leadership & Skills Conference

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Audio-Radio Production- Noah Beckman

High School- Secondary Technical Education Program

Audio-Radio Production- Jonah Johnson

High School- Secondary Technical Education Program

Automotive Refinishing Technology – Trevor Lang

College/Post Secondary- Ridgewater College- Willmar

Cabinetmaking – Aaron Zimdars

High School – Red Wing High School

Cabinetmaking – Paul Manthei

College/Post Secondary – Hennepin Tech College- Brooklyn Park

Carpentry- Alexander Smith

High School- Cambridge High School

Carpentry- Raymond Krell

College/Post Secondary – Riverland Community College- Austin

CNC Milling- Leo Steffl

College/Post Secondary – Alexandria Technical College

CNC Turning- Jordan Haugen

College/Post Secondary – Alexandria Technical College

Cosmetology- Ashley O'Grady

High School- Carver-Scott Educational Cooperative

Cosmetology- Kayla Winn

College/Post Secondary – MSCTC- Wadena

Crime Scene Investigation- Amber Engebretson

College/Post Secondary – Riverland Community College- Austin

Crime Scene Investigation- John Jorgenson

College/Post Secondary – Riverland Community College- Austin

Crime Scene Investigation- TJ Lynch

College/Post Secondary – Riverland Community College- Austin

Criminal Justice- Emily Taitt

High School- Secondary Technical Educational Program

Culinary Arts- Meghann Kirchner

High School- Secondary Technical Educational Program

Customer Service- Sophie Konewko

High School- John F. Kennedy High School

Customer Service- Selena Smith-Flemming

College/Post Secondary – Riverland Community College- Austin

Diesel Equipment Technology- Christopher McCullough

College/Post Secondary – Hennepin Tech College- Brooklyn Park

Entrepreneurship- David Flicek

College/Post Secondary – South Central College- North Mankato

Entrepreneurship- Silas Mauk

College/Post Secondary – South Central College- North Mankato

Entrepreneurship- Jon Smith

College/Post Secondary – South Central College- North Mankato

Entrepreneurship- Trevor Weaver

College/Post Secondary – South Central College- North Mankato

Extemporaneous Speaking- Sergio Hernandez

College/Post Secondary – Riverland Community College- Albert Lea

Firefighting- Christopher Metzger

High School- Wayzata High School

Graphic Communications- Brett Koster

High School- Carver-Scott Educational Cooperative

Health Occupations Professional Portfolio- Katie Kirsch

College/Post Secondary – Riverland Community College- Austin

HVACR- Philip Patton

High School- Minneapolis Community & Technical College

HVACR- Rafael Morales

College/Post Secondary – Hennepin Tech College- Eden Prairie

Job Interview- Julian Ellison

High School- Carver-Scott Educational Cooperative

Job Skill Demonstration A- Jess Ranby
College/Post Secondary – Lake Superior College

Masonry- Spencer Coffman
High School – Alexandria Technical College

Masonry- Parker Johnson
College/Post Secondary- Dakota County Technical College

Mechatronics- Joel Hedlof
High School – Alexandria Technical College

Mechatronics- Patrick Schueller
High School – Alexandria Technical College

Nail Care- Sara Kukacka
High School- Carver-Scott Educational Cooperative

Nail Care- Ashley Marker
High School- Carver-Scott Educational Cooperative

Nail Care- Dayna Germer
College/Post Secondary – Century College

Nail Care- Candace Wilson
College/Post Secondary – Century College

Nurse Assisting- April Alden
High School- Dakota County Secondary Technical Center

Opening and Closing Ceremonies- McKenzie Auers
High School- John F. Kennedy High School

Opening and Closing Ceremonies- Edith Lopez
High School- John F. Kennedy High School

Opening and Closing Ceremonies- Mahlet Makonnen
High School- John F. Kennedy High School

Opening and Closing Ceremonies- Gina Shuck
High School- John F. Kennedy High School

Opening and Closing Ceremonies- Shelby Spurlin
High School- John F. Kennedy High School

Opening and Closing Ceremonies- Anna Zhao
High School- John F. Kennedy High School

Opening and Closing Ceremonies- Emily Zahor
High School- John F. Kennedy High School

Opening and Closing Ceremonies- Jenna Anderson
College/Post Secondary – Century College

Opening and Closing Ceremonies- Caitlin Butler
College/Post Secondary – Century College

Opening and Closing Ceremonies- Cassandra Franz
College/Post Secondary – Century College

Opening and Closing Ceremonies- Jolynn Lieffring
College/Post Secondary – Century College

Opening and Closing Ceremonies- Kari Monson
College/Post Secondary – Century College

Opening and Closing Ceremonies- Christine Schlosser
College/Post Secondary – Century College

Opening and Closing Ceremonies- Mikealine
College/Post Secondary – Century College

Power Equipment Technology- Eric Nelson
College/Post Secondary – Alexandria Technical College

Quiz Bowl- Benjamin Anderson
College/Post Secondary – Dunwoody College of Technology

Quiz Bowl- Matt Barlau
College/Post Secondary – Dunwoody College of Technology

Quiz Bowl- Kyle Bodie
College/Post Secondary – Dunwoody College of Technology

Quiz Bowl- Phillip DeLeeuw
College/Post Secondary – Dunwoody College of Technology

Quiz Bowl- Jim Stenstrom
College/Post Secondary – Dunwoody College of Technology

Residential Wiring- Jacob Wagner
College/Post Secondary – Saint Cloud Technical College

Screen Printing Technology- Wyatt DeWild
High School- Austin High School

Sheet Metal- Daniel Hillmer
College/Post Secondary – Saint Paul College

Telecommunications Cabling- Tyler Foss
College/Post Secondary – MSCTC- Wadena

Web Design- Nathan Geier
College/Post Secondary – Hennepin Tech College- Brooklyn Park

Web Design- Michelle Heil
College/Post Secondary – Hennepin Tech College- Brooklyn Park